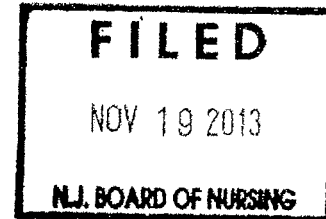


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
SANDRA JANET KURTZ, RN	:	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
License #26NR12756100	:	OF LICENSE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN	:	
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

1. Sandra Janet Kurtz ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse (RN) in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all relevant times. (Exhibit A).
2. Respondent and the Board entered into a Consent Order, filed on June 29, 2011, which required, in part, that Respondent enroll in and participate with the Board's designated

intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program of the Institute for Nursing ("RAMP"). (Exhibit B). Respondent complied and was released from RAMP after successfully completing a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation. (Exhibit C).

3. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board on or about March 7, 2013. The agreement required, in part, that Respondent re-enroll in RAMP, to undergo evaluation and monitoring, including random urine screens. The agreement, which was to remain private and confidential unless and until the Board received reliable information that Respondent had violated any term, was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. (Exhibit D).

4. Respondent re-enrolled in RAMP but has been non-compliant in that she missed multiple check-ins with the online monitoring account which requires daily check-ins and schedules random urine screens, missed one random urine screen, tested positive for alcohol metabolites, missed peer support meetings, failed to respond to her RAMP case manager's attempts to contact her and redirect her towards compliance, and informed the online monitoring system that she was no longer in the program. (Exhibit C).

5. On or about October 7, 2013, a communication was sent to Respondent at her address of record by overnight and regular mail, advising Respondent that the Board had received information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement and with her agreement with RAMP. Respondent was further advised to provide the Board with proof of any inaccuracy in that information within two weeks. (Exhibit E). No written response was received.

6. The private letter agreement signed by Respondent provided for automatic suspension of Respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that Respondent had violated any term of the private letter agreement. The agreement states that Respondent may, upon notice to the Board, request a hearing to contest her automatic suspension; however, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent's violation of the agreement was materially false. The Board also reserved the right to bring further disciplinary action. (Exhibit D).

7. Respondent's failure to check-in on multiple occasions, failure to undergo one random urine screen, positive urine screen, failure to attend peer support meetings, failure to

follow the recommendations of RAMP to redirect her towards compliance, and departure from RAMP before successfully completing the program and before being released from the program, violate the private letter agreement and constitute violations of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), and automatic suspension of her license as provided in the private letter agreement.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 19th day of Nov., 2013,
HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for her violation of the terms of the private letter agreement as set forth above, which is a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, request a hearing, upon notice, on the sole issue of whether information received that Respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement was materially false.

3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall

not entertain any application for reinstatement without a demonstration by Respondent that she is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP, that RAMP supports her reinstatement, in addition to a demonstration that she is fit and competent to practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Patricia Murphy PhD APRN, FAAN
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President